



**The
May
2023
Issue**

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School Uniforms Around the World

Many countries around the world have school uniforms. Some are inspired by **traditional**, cultural, or **religious** clothes but many are the same **preppy** style with different **accessories**.

For example, in Japan, there are two types of uniforms. Sailor-style uniforms and Western-style uniforms. Keika Girls' School has very cute Western-style uniforms with gray or brown **plaid** skirts, pink, blue, or white button-down shirts, knee-high socks, neckties or bows, sweater vests, and a blazer. We even have uniform **slacks** now! So many choices, so fun!

Please see the many colorful uniforms from around the world in the pictures on the next page!



HOWEVER, please remember that in just one country, there are many types of schools. For example, **public** school, **private** school, religious school, or even home-school. The school could have a special focus like sports or science that **affects** the clothes. Each school might have its own school colors, mascot, symbol, and style. This can change what people wear as students too. So, not every picture on the next page is a perfect **representation** of that country. Everything is always a little different in real life. Interesting!





Makeni, **Sierra Leone**



Castilla y León,
Spain, 2012



Kibera, Nairobi,
Kenya



Tokyo, **Japan**



Maryland, **U.S.A., 2012**



Kent, **U.K.**



Galle Port, **Sri Lanka**



Kazminskoye, **Russia**



Sichuan, **China, 2015**



Mogadishu, **Somalia**



Taichung, **Taiwan**
&
Gold Coast, **Australia**



Seoul, **South Korea**



Thimphu,
Bhutan



Myanmar, 2013



Houghton,
South Africa, 2013

School Uniform Debate

Against Free Dress, For School Uniforms



I am against free dress. I think that school uniforms are better for students. I have a few reasons.

First, school uniforms are very well made, which means they are great **value**! Even if they are a little expensive at first, they can be worn again and again for years. Some uniforms (like Keika's!) even grow with you. There are strings in your blazers, skirts, and slacks that can be cut to make them a few centimetres longer. Over your school life, uniforms are often **cheaper** than free dress.



Second, uniforms are a great way to stop **bullying**. When everyone wears the same uniform, they are **equal**. But when free dress is an option, students might judge each other on their clothing choices. Some students cannot afford to buy popular brands. They might also worry about **repeating** outfits too often if they only have a small **wardrobe**. This could lead to bullying, which would be terrible.



Third, uniforms can be helpful if you are in **danger** in public, especially in Japan. When you coming to school and going home, people can **easily** see what school you are from. If something happens to you, they can call your school to let them know. Your school can help you, and quickly **contact** your parents.

Lastly, a good uniform (like Keika's!) is cute, and can be **customised**. Many Japanese schools provide lots of choices in their uniforms. At Keika you can wear skirts or slacks, vest or jumper or blazer, various shirt colours and styles, or a **mix** of all these! You get the **benefits** of having an equal uniform, while still **showing off** your **individuality**.



Uniforms are **cost effective**, and last a long time. They can protect students by stopping bullying, and keeping them safe in public. Also, they are super cute! For these reasons, school uniforms are better for students than free dress.

XOXO,
Erin





School Uniform Debate

Against School Uniforms, For Free Dress



I am against school uniforms. I think that a free dress code is better for students. I have a few reasons.

First, school uniforms are **expensive**. Usually, you can only buy them from special stores in a few sizes. This means that these stores can have higher **prices** because there are not many other choices. The few sizes also mean that customers who need a special size must pay **extra**.

Second, the uniform material is strong, but it must be washed very often because it is **worn** so much. This can **waste** water and be **inconvenient**. The uniform also cannot be worn outside of school events. This means it is not useful in **general** life.

Third, in the United States only 20% of students wear a school uniform. There is a worry that if students wear clothing with their or their school's name, it could hurt their **privacy** or help **stalkers**.

Lastly, uniforms stop students from showing their **individuality**. Making everyone look the same can be especially difficult for students that have **cultural** or **religious** backgrounds with special **hairstyles** or clothing that are different from the uniform rules. School uniforms also usually only come in boy's styles and girl's styles. However, nowadays many people have different **genders**. Students may not be comfortable **strictly** dressing as a 'boy' or a 'girl'.

Regular clothing has many prices, sizes, and styles. It is also easier to find. Students all have their own needs and **backgrounds** so having these choices is necessary. For these reasons, free dress is better for students than school uniforms.

p.s. I went to a rare school in the U.S.A. with uniforms!

**XOXO,
Sheila**



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Kiwi Keika Girls 2023



Kia ora! Eight Keika girls studied abroad in New Zealand for two months in February and March 2023. Two students went to Whagarei Girls High School in Auckland. Three students went to Christchurch Girls High School in Christchurch.

Three girls went to Avonside Girls High School also in Christchurch. Here are some of their beautiful pictures and cute comments. It must be bittersweet to be back. Please check out all the cute New Zealand school uniforms!



'It is important to try everything even if it is hard because it is a good experience.'



'Get new hobbies through new experiences!'



'It is important to be proud of myself because I really tried a lot.'



'My goal is to speak English a lot with a smile!' 😊





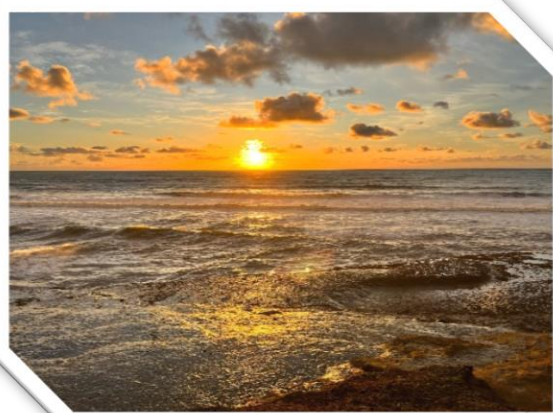
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'It is important to learn something with friends.'



'Learn from your favorite things!'



'It is important to learn other languages!'



'It is important to be honest about your mind anytime.'



'My goal is to challenge a lot of things!'

